

Remarks

The indication that claims 22, 25-27, 30-32, and 35-92 have been allowed is acknowledged with thanks. In reliance thereon, subject matter from allowed claims 22 and 27 has been added to claims 1 and 8 to place claims 1, 3-8, and 10-14 in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 10-13, 15, and 17-20 were rejected as unpatentable over the admitted prior art (APA) in view of CHERITON 6,724,721 and claims 7, 14, and 21 were rejected further in view of NOUREDDINE et al. "Selective Back-Pressure in Switched Ethernet LANS," Global Telecommunications Conference - Globecom'99. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to include subject matter from allowed claims 22 and 27 and claims 15 and 17-21 have been canceled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

As acknowledged in the Official Action, the references do not disclose a hierarchy-network and method as claimed in claims 1 and 8 in which plural router-sets provide multiple-point routings between base stations and a host network, where at least one of the router-sets is a page-area managing router for managing a page area, where each of the router-sets includes plural associated routers that provide the same communication route and have the same routing information, and a selected one of the associated routers provides the communication route, and if the selected router becomes inoperational, then another of the

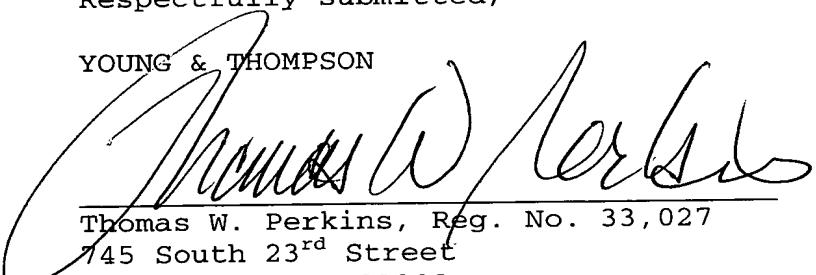
associated routers is selected to provide the communication route, and where selection of one of the associated routers in each of the router-sets is made by a higher level router that manages the associated routers.

In view of the present amendment, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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TWP/mjr